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**BULLETIN
OF THE
CENTER FOR
CHILDREN'S
BOOKS**

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

EXPLANATION OF CODE SYMBOLS USED WITH ANNOTATIONS

R Recommended

Ad Additional book of acceptable quality for collections needing more material in the area.

M Marginal book that is so slight in content or has so many weaknesses in style or format that it should be given careful consideration before purchase.

NR Not recommended

SpC Subject matter or treatment will tend to limit the book to specialized collections.

SpR. A book that will have appeal for the unusual reader only. Recommended for the special few who will read it.

Except for pre-school years, reading range is given for grade rather than for age of child.

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Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO • GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Volume 21

September, 1967

Number 1

New Titles for Children and Young People

Aliki, ed. Three Gold Pieces; A Greek Folk Tale retold and illus. by Aliki. Pantheon Books, 1967. 27p. \$3.50.

R
K-2 A simple retelling of a Greek folk tale, the pages illustrated alternately in black and white and in brilliant color. Yannis is a poor peasant who leaves home to serve a wealthy old man. His master keeps his pay, and at the end of ten years Yannis is given only three gold coins; then the master offers, three times, to give Yannis a piece of advice for a piece of gold. "Never ask about something that is not your concern." is the first piece of advice; Yannis is soon able to profit by it when he encounters a man grateful for one passerby that minds his own business. He returns to his family with a bundle of gold, having—by the third piece of advice—narrowly missed harming the grown son he has not recognized.

Bartos-Höppner, B. Avalanche Dog; tr. by Anthea Bell. Walck, 1967. 159p. \$3.50.

R
6-10 A dramatic adventure story, first published in Germany. One of a group of young men from an Alpine village describes some of the group's rescue operations, the problems in training and tracking, and the importance of the ability, stamina, and temperament of the German Shepherd dogs. Since his own well-trained dog has been injured, Lofty is training a new dog, Aladdin; when the rescue call comes, Aladdin proves to be as good a tracker as any dog on the team. The dramatic situation has great appeal, and the appeal is added to by the suspense, pace, and style of a skilled writer of adventure stories.

A Book for Eleanor Farjeon; A Tribute to Her Life and Work 1881-1965; with an introduction by Naomi Lewis; illus. by Edward Ardizzone. Walck, 1966. 184p. \$3.95.

R
4-7 First published in England, a collection of stories (plus two poems and Rumer Godden's "Tea with Eleanor Farjeon") dedicated to the memory of one of England's greatest writers for children. The Ardizzone illustrations are delightful; the list of other contributors is impressive and alluring: Ainsworth, Avery, Clewes, Dillon, Lynch, Mayne, Norton, Reeves, Serrailier, Sutcliffe, and Willard.

Boston, Lucy Maria. The Sea Egg; illus. by Peter Boston. Harcourt, 1967. 94p. \$2.50.

Two small brothers, vacationing in Cornwall, are smitten by an egg-

R
4-6 shaped stone and buy it from a souvenir seller. The sea egg, they call it, and it proves indeed to be an egg, hatching into a merry water creature. The boy triton accepts the children's friendship and leads them into some magical adventures and an intimacy with the sea and its inhabitants. The adults never know the secret; all through the wonderful summer the children live a private life. This is a remarkable blend of fantasy and realism, and a remarkable evocation of the sounds and sights and smells of the ocean shore.

Braude, Michael. Bruce Learns About Life Insurance; illus. by Howard E. Lindberg. Denison, 1967. 25p. Library ed. \$2.68 net.

NR
3-5 An oversize book with awkward illustrations and an even more awkward text. A fourth grade class is given an essay assignment; since the topic is "How My Dad Earns His Living" (would any teacher be that crass, in view of the number of broken homes?) Bruce spends a day with his father, an insurance salesman. Thus Bruce learns how altruistic is the role of the insurance salesman, and how grateful are those he has helped. No suggestion of the profit motive clouds the story, which is contrived in structure and capricious in syntax.

Brown, Myra (Berry). Sandy Signs His Name; pictures by Betty Fraser. Watts, 1967. 64p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.21 net.

R
2-3 For those young enough to appreciate the importance of such an achievement, here is the story of a small boy who was enraptured by his newly-acquired skill. Sandy printed his name on the sidewalk, on his mother's shopping list, on a steamed-over mirror, and—last thing at night—on the ledge of the washbasin, in toothpaste. It wasn't until he was able to use his skill for something important, however, that the full sense of power hit him; he was pleased to be able to take as many books as he wanted and delighted to be envied by his younger siblings. Loftily he tells envious sister, the story ends, that she may get her own library card when she is as big as he and can write her name. "It's too hard for you, but it was easy as pie for me!" On a few of the pages the words are lost on inside edges, and it seems a little obvious to find only the publisher's own titles in an illustration of a library shelf, but this is a modest and pleasant story, realistic both in the family relationships and in the picture of a beginning writer dazzled by his art.

Burningham, John. John Burningham's ABC. Bobbs-Merrill, 1967. 52p. illus. \$4.95.

R
4-6 yrs. An alphabet book that follows the traditional format and uses many of the traditional words; "A /a/ apple" it begins. The lettering is particularly satisfying in design, white (with an exception) against a colored background. The facing pages are stunning: big, bold pictures, marvelous in the use of color and often humorous; some pages are cartoon-like, some representational.

Campbell, Hope. Home to Hawaii. Norton, 1967. 174p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.28 net.

Ad
6-9 Seventeen-year-old Kim leaves a note for her parents in New York, and runs away to Hawaii in search of a half-sister she has just found out about. She is lucky enough to run into a helpful and instantly smitten

youth who takes her to a friend's home to live. Her sister, Malia, is of mixed racial background; the reason she has not lived with her father is that Malia, whose mother died at her birth, seemed so happy with her relatives that her father didn't want to tear her away. The plot seems somewhat contrived, but the development is believable; the story has some obtrusive doses of Hawaiian history, but the characters are attractive and the setting colorful.

Chenery, Janet. The Toad Hunt; pictures by Ben Shecter. Harper, 1967. 64p. (I Can Read Books) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

Ad
2-3 A story for the beginning independent reader, sedate of pace, but enlivened by the humorous illustrations and appealing because of the bland, direct style. The story gives enough information to be easily absorbed, information that can be verified by the interested young reader without recourse to equipment or to special instruction. Teddy mistakes a toad for a frog, so his father explains the difference in appearance and behavior; Teddy and his friend try to find a toad. They see a few other habitants of Polliwog Pond, but not until they are on a family picnic do they see another toad. The ending is rather abrupt, but this is a pleasant story for the child interested in nature lore.

Chwast, Jacqueline. When the Baby-Sitter Didn't Come; written and illus. by Jacqueline Chwast. Harcourt, 1967. 24p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$3.09 net.

M
4-6 yrs. Mother was all set to go shopping for a new dress, and when the baby-sitter didn't come, she decided to go anyway and take Pammy and her older sister, Eve, along. Eve was in nursery school and her behavior was expectably composed; little Pammy became bored and trotted off, shedding clothes, to take a nap at the foot of a mannequin. Eve found her, and a relieved mother took both girls to lunch. Small listeners will be pleased to be able to feel superior or sympathetic, but the appeal of the story is to some extent to the adult. The illustrations are slightly busy, slightly awkward, and usually funny.

Cleaver, Vera. Ellen Grae; by Vera and Bill Cleaver; illus. by Ellen Raskin. Lippincott, 1967. 89p. \$2.95.

R
4-6 Ellen Grae's divorced parents had sent her to stay with Mrs. McGruder, who was fascinated by the child's tenacious mendacity. Not that Ellen Grae had any purpose, she just enjoyed Instant Tall Tales; when she suddenly drooped into days of silence, her parents were called. Together, gently, they pried out of Ellen Grae the fact that she was worried about an adult friend, Ira; solitary and odd, but harmless, Ira had told Ellen Grae a tale of patricide and she had been torn between loyalty to him and her obligation to tell the police. When she did tell the story, it was dismissed as just Ira's peculiar rambling; immediately Ellen Grae reverted to her normal role as an imaginative gamine, to the great relief of the adults. The intelligent affection of Mrs. McGruder and the relationship between Ellen Grae and Ira are touching; the relationship between Ellen Grae's parents is handled with dignity.

Corbett, Scott. The Turnabout Trick; illus. by Paul Galdone. Atlantic-Little, Brown, 1967. 105p. \$3.50.

- Ad 4-6 A sixth book about Kerby Maxwell, the boy whose acquaintance with Mrs. Graymalkin (to say nothing of his experiments with the magical chemistry set she gave him) has led to so many tricks and fanciful adventures in previous books. Here Waldo the dog and Xerxes the cat change behavior patterns, the latter due to injury-induced amnesia and the former to Kerby-induced magic. Plot two: the boys help Mrs. Graymalkin track down three bank robbers, one of whom is unknowingly carrying an electronic device that registers on a screen in her car. Shades of U.N.C.L.E.! The story has the zany, romping appeal of the other Trick books, but also has the same repetitive whimsy whenever the animals are being described.
- Devendorf, Ann. The Farmer's Troll; illus. by Howard E. Lindberg. Denison, 1967. 25p. \$2.68.
- NR K-2 A read-aloud picture book with pedestrian illustrations and a story that is adequately written but slight and patterned in construction. A wealthy farmer owed his good luck to the troll whose pay was merely a bowl of rice each Christmas Eve. When the farmer became miserly and omitted the rice, the angry troll cast an evil spell; a second year proved disastrous for the farmer and on the third Christmas Eve he spent his last coin on rice for the troll. From that time on he lived in prosperity. Although the publisher makes no statement about origin, the illustrations indicate that the story was first published in Sweden.
- Dugdale, Vera. Album of North American Animals; illus. by Clark Bronson. Rand McNally, 1966. 112p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.97 net.
- R 6-8 An oversize book that describes varieties of mammalian wild life of the North American continent. Several pages are devoted to each, with outline maps that show the animal's habitat and with several drawings in black and white in addition to the full-page illustration in color of each creature. The pictures are precise in detail and attractive; the text is written in straightforward style with an occasional fictional or dramatic note. The description of each animal includes habits and habitat, ecological setting and relations to men, and the patterns of mating, feeding, hibernation, et cetera.
- Erdoes, Richard. A Picture History of Ancient Rome. Macmillan, 1967. 60p. illus. Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$4.94 net.
- R 5-9 Over a thousand years of Roman history are covered in this oversize book; the text is topical and continuous, and it does a quite good job of skimming over salient facts in the years from the time of Rome's establishment in 476 A.D. The illustrations are a profitable delight, beautiful in design and color, meticulous in period and architectural detail, and often wonderfully funny.
- Feagles, Anita MacRae. Autun and the Bear; An Old Icelandic Legend; retold by Anita Feagles; with illus. by Gertrude Barrer-Russell. Scott, 1967. 44p. \$3.95.
- Ad 3-5 An Icelandic legend about a tenth century Viking, sedately retold and illustrated with illustrations that are strong and simple in design but executed in soft technique and colors. Autun is sent abroad by his master, a farmer, as a reward for his hard labor; he sets out on a three-

year voyage. In Greenland he buys a bear as a gift for King Svein of Denmark; he stops in Norway, where King Harald asks for the bear. Autun refuses, but on his return journey he gives his dearest possession to King Harald to show his gratitude for Harald's earlier forbearance. The writing is slow and occasionally abrupt in movement, but the book has appeal because it reflects the role of the ordinary man in Viking times and the freedom of movement in that seafaring era.

Fleischman, H. Samuel. Gang Girl; illus. by Shirley Walker. Doubleday, 1967. 143p. \$2.95.

M
7-9 Maria Gomez is fourteen; several years after the family had come to New York from Puerto Rico, father had left them. Mother had gone to work as a cleaning woman and Alberto had "come to live with them" and be the man of the house. (Although referred to as Maria's step-father in the jacket blurb, Alberto appears to be just living with mother.) Anxious for status, Maria joins a gang of tough girls; pressed into stealing, she is caught and sent to Youth House, where she learns to be even tougher. She rejects the social worker, rejects her mother, and becomes leader of the gang. When the gang is helping some boys rob a store, Maria is smitten with dismay at the last moment and warns the intended victims. Hurt, she is hospitalized; her mother appears, and announces that she has told Alberto to go and that she has been talking to the social worker; a boy-friend who has turned into a responsible citizen shows up; Maria and the social agent reorganize the gang into a neighborhood center group. Tough city gangs exist, the girls do go into detention homes, and the family background is often a contributing factor; some girls—and boys—do give up this kind of life, with or without professional help. Unfortunately, this story seems so purposive, and often so contrived, that it makes rather dull reading despite the lurid events.

Fleischman, Sid. McBroom and the Big Wind; illus. by Kurt Werth. Norton, 1967. 42p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.03 net.

R
4-6 In McBroom Tells the Truth, Sid Fleischman introduced one of the most amusing and extravagant liars of our time; here is another hilarious tall tale about the amazing events on the one-acre McBroom farm; no ordinary wind attacked it, but a powerful gale that blew the eleven children into the sky, trapped a bear into skipping rope with the laundry line, and bent McBroom's gun at right angles so that it brought down a brace of ducks over Mexico.

Gault, William Campbell. Backfield Challenge. Dutton, 1967. 160p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.46 net.

R
7-10 Although this junior novel about high school football has some traces of the formula sports story, it has some excellent qualities that make it both interesting and important. It does not merely skim the problem of racial hostility, but explores deeply the motivations of the protagonist, Lincoln Booker Carver—a heavy-handed touch—and of other characters. It does not assume that either the young people or the adults (of whatever racial or ethnic background) are all heroes, or all villains, and it has an ending that is believable as an adjustment rather than a pat solution to all problems. Link, who is Negro, expects trouble when he trans-

fers to a middle-class school in which the star of the football team is prejudiced. He finds it. He also finds perspective in his own feelings when he has to balance his resentment toward one person against the good of the team, the school, and his own career.

Goldin, Augusta R. The Bottom of the Sea; illus. by Ed Emberley. T. Y. Crowell, 1967. 35p. Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Books. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$2.96 net.

R
3-5 Illustrated with lively cartoon-like drawings and clear diagrams, a beginning science book on the subject of the ocean floor. The author discusses in very simple language—but with correct terminology—the various formations of land beneath the sea and the many techniques and machines that have been used by oceanographers.

Goldston, Robert C. The Life and Death of Nazi Germany; illus. with photographs and drawings by Donald Carrick. Bobbs-Merrill, 1967. 224p. \$4.95.

R
8- A third title in Mr. Goldston's series of books dealing with contemporary international issues, and a fine piece of writing, both as a literary product and as an historical treatise. The history of Germany is covered in enough detail to give the reader an understanding of the forces and factors that made possible the emergence of a Hitler and the subservience of a people whose cultural achievements and heritage should have made them impervious to demagoguery. The author's contempt for Hitler and his followers makes this a much less objective book than the first two. The rise of the Nazi party and the course of events that led to the war are described in great detail; as he has done before, the author gives a broad picture of the roles of other nations and of the forces and important figures within the country. Intelligent, lucid, and dramatic—an absorbing and important book. A bibliography and an index are appended.

Graham, Lorenz. I, Momolu; illus. by John Biggers. T. Y. Crowell, 1966. 227p. \$4.

Ad
7-10 A quiet story set in Liberia, where the author was for some years a missionary teacher; the book gives a good picture of rural and urban patterns in modern Liberia, and it gives a touching picture of family loyalty, especially of the relationship between father and son. It is a slow-moving story, however, partly due to the sedate writing style, partly to the restrained pace of the story line. When a troop of soldiers comes to their village, Momolu's family is as hospitable as the others until Flumbo, the father, becomes angry because his son has tried on a uniform. He loses his temper and is fined 10 bags of rice; some of the rice is lost as it is being delivered and father and son are put in prison. In the city, they visit a church, a school, and an army camp before returning to their village.

Gregor, Arthur Stephen. How the World's First Cities Began; illus. by W. T. Mars. Dutton, 1967. 64p. Trade ed. \$3.75; Library ed. \$3.71 net.

R
4-7 A clear presentation of the beginnings of civilization and of the growing size and complexity of urban life. The author describes the cities of Mesopotamia, and, although he is specific about cultural details and the influences of natural physical conditions of the region, the specific can

easily be translated to the general. The emergence of a classed society, of a hierarchy of control, and of conflict between competing cities all apply to our present society. The illustrations are adequate; the book is written in an easy, conversational style.

Gustaitis, Rasa. Melissa Hayden, Ballerina. Nelson, 1967. 127p. illus. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.92 net.

Ad 6-9 A biography of the youngster (born Mildred Herman) who was fiercely determined, as a girl in Toronto, to become a dancer although her training began very late for a professional ballet dancer—in mid-adolescence. The book gives a considerable amount of information about Miss Hayden's personal life without giving a vivid impression of her personality; the heavier emphasis is, of course, on the hardships and successes of her artistic life.

Hall, Elvajean. Hong Kong; illus. by Paula Hutchison. Rand McNally, 1967. 160p. \$3.50.

R 6-9 Jam-packed with facts, communicating an enjoyment of the city, and studded with those small, vivid details that come only from informed observation, this is a most interesting and informative book. It is almost too crowded with detail, but the material is so colorful that the catalogue of names and facts seems bearable. There is an occasional comment that seems to reflect on the strangeness of foreign customs: "A tremendous amount of cooking takes place, because no knife or shears may be used during the New Year's celebration, as it might also cut one's luck!" There is, however, comparatively little of this; most of the author's comments accord to the different and exotic the dignity they deserve. A list of "Things To Do" in Hong Kong precedes the index; the book has a limited reference use and considerable browsing appeal.

Harris, Janet. The Long Freedom Road; The Civil Rights Story; illus. with photographs. McGraw-Hill, 1967. 150p. \$3.95.

R 6-10 A well-balanced history of the American Negro's fight for civil rights, quite objective and written in a direct and simple style that is marred slightly by the author's proclivity to put between quotation marks words or phrases that seem quite ordinary. "The churches that served as 'freedom schools' were bombed." or, "The 'long hot summer of 1963' began with two rifle shots . . ." The author is sympathetic to the civil rights movement (she has worked with CORE and the NAACP) but the tone of her writing is restrained and quiet. A bibliography of adult and juvenile books and an index are appended.

Hayes, Florence (Sooy). The Boy in the Roof-Top School; illus. by Jeanyee Wong. Random House, 1967. 57p. \$1.95.

Ad 3-5 The setting of this story about a refugee family in Hong Kong is interesting; the writing style is sedate and low-keyed; the events and relationships are realistic, but the characters of Li and Tu seem obtrusively contrasted. When they come to Hong Kong from Canton, Li's family brings also his cousin Tu; they are the same age and look almost like twins, but the boys are otherwise different in every way. Tu is lazy, selfish, untruthful, et cetera; Li is honest, industrious, courteous, and zealous in his desire for schooling. Tu tries to steal Li's much-prized place

in the crowded rooftop school, but is trapped by a test of his knowledge. He finally decides to follow Li's honorable path.

Helgesen, C. Mary Alice in the Palace; written and illus. by D. Finucane and C. Helgesen. Reilly and Lee, 1967. 25p. \$3.95.

NR Mary Alice has eyes that see geometrically. "Once a girl named
4-6 Mary Alice/ Found herself inside a palace./ She laughed and laughed/
yrs. As you would do -/ For inside the palace/ was a ZOO!! The animals
there/ (Now don't be a skeptic)/ All were very geometric." In addition
to poor rhyme and inappropriate vocabulary, the quotation has a slightly
coy note; the drawings—which translate animals into geometric shapes
—seem unlikely to stimulate the child artistically or to clarify his ideas
about animal habits.

Hightower, Florence C. Fayerweather Forecast; illus. by Joshua Tolford.
Houghton, 1967. 219p. \$3.25.

R The Fayerweathers are an entirely delightful family, each distinc-
5-8 tively drawn and all a cohesive unit; they understand each other's idio-
syncracies, tolerating them nicely and occasionally using them to fla-
grant advantage. Father is a writer, and broke; they all go to live with
his sister and somewhat backward brother in a small town and promptly
become involved in community life. Bob Fayerweather, an alert and sus-
picious boy, is determined to find the solution to the strange disappear-
ance of his aunt's fiance—and he does; the man had been murdered. Any
suspicion of grimness is alleviated by the highly carbonated Hightower
style and the bland ploys of the family; for example, the youngest child
is used quite deliberately by her Machiavellian mother (lovely and inno-
cent looking) when a petition for a new school is being circulated. Bitsy,
young and crafty, mendaciously puts on a wonderfully piteous monologue
about the horrors of the decrepit school.

Hirsch, S. Carl. Printing from a Stone; The Story of Lithography. Viking, 1967.
111p. illus. Trade ed. \$3.75; Library ed. \$3.56 net.

R A most interesting book that describes the history of lithography,
7- giving first the background of earlier methods of duplicating print and
—after describing Senefelder's discovery in 1798—surveying all of the
developments and the modern improvements. Mr. Hirsch gives particu-
lar attention to lithography in art and in book illustration, although most
of his text is devoted to an examination of lithographic printing. The
writing style is a bit dry, straightforward, and lucid; a brief reading list
and an index are appended.

Hodgson, Louise. Breathing Backwards; illus. by June Talarczyk. Denison, 1967.
28p. Library ed. \$2.68 net.

NR An oversize book about plant physiology with only a few illustrations
3-5 that make any contribution to the topic of photosynthesis. The text is
repetitive, often coy (as in the title) and occasionally misleading. "The
strange thing that plants do that is almost like breathing . . ." or "The
bit of magic inside plants that makes this possible . . ." may engender a
most unscientific attitude; the reiteration of the fact that plants take in
carbon dioxide might easily leave a young reader in ignorance of the fact
that free oxygen is necessary for plant life.

Holme, Bryan. Drawings to Live With. Viking, 1966. 159p. illus. \$4.50.

R
5-10 A pleasant ramble through the world of art, with occasional humorous comments and with a considerable amount of information about techniques; the writing is coy here and there, and some of the captions seem redundant (a picture of a cat notes, "Obviously after a very satisfactory meal—fat, proud, happy, and serene.") Mr. Holme explains the differences between representational, impressionistic, and abstract art; interspersed through the text are interesting comments about interpretation or facts about media. For the most part, however, the book consists of reproductions of works of art grouped about some theme (the universality of drawings of animals) or by medium ("Pen, Pencil, and Chalk") or by function: the chapter entitled "The Open Book" comments on illustrations.

Hunter, Mollie. The Spanish Letters. Funk and Wagnalls, 1967. 192p. \$3.50.

R
7-10 A cloak-and-dagger adventure story, set in Edinburgh in the late sixteenth century, brimming with action, and written with zest and color. Young Jamie Morton becomes allied with an English agent who is hunting two Spaniards; they are allied with some Scottish traitors who are planning to abduct King James. Add the beautiful young daughter of the master swordsman who is teaching Jamie, and little else is needed to make this a Compleat Tale of Adventure. Only a deft hand could keep this under control, and Mollie Hunter has it.

Ickis, Marguerite. The Book of Religious Holidays and Celebrations; with drawings by Richard E. Howard. Dodd, 1966. 161p. \$5.

NR
7- Although this book gives a considerable amount of information about holidays, it has enough weakness of organization to limit its usefulness severely. Within the sections, the arrangement seems to be random, and the material is not made accessible by an index; some of the material included seems out of place: for example, listed under "Other religious celebrations" is Mother's Day. An identification chart of forms of the cross has some errors in the text; the opening line of Moore's poem is quoted as "It was the night before Christmas and all over the house."

Jacobs, Joseph. Mr. Miacca; An English Folk Tale; illus. by Evaline Ness. Holt, 1967. 26p. Trade ed. \$3.75; Library ed. \$3.45 net.

Ad
K-2 A picture book edition of one of the brief stories from Joseph Jacob's English Folk and Fairy Tales (Putnam, 1904) with bright and charming illustrations of the costumes and street scenes of Victorian London. The tale is Mr. Jacob's version, although he is given no credit on the title page. Mr. Miacca is the sinister character who catches and eats naughty children; Tommy Grimes is the naughty, intelligent child who twice escapes from Mr. Miacca's clutches.

Jansson, Tove. Moominpappa at Sea; written and illus. by Tove Jansson; tr. by Kingsley Hart. Walck, 1967. 192p. \$4.

Ad
5-7 This is a somewhat more somber book than the previous stories about Moomins and their friends, since the isolated setting is forbidding in itself and since it imposes an absence of the daft and cheerful assortment that usually surround the family. Moominpappa had always wanted to own

an island, but he and his family found some problems in adjusting to the harsh life in a bleak lighthouse—all except Little My, whose resilient and self-contained nature conquered all problems. The intricate non-sense and the wholly-created Moomin characters are entertaining as always, but the mood of the setting and the narrow focus on a few characters make the story seem rather slow-moving.

Jeffries, Roderic. Patrol Car. Harper, 1967. 180p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.27 net.

R
6-9 Harry Cole is a young English constable who becomes involved in an exciting chase while he is taking the final test that concludes an advanced driving course. Six men have escaped after staging a payroll robbery, and Harry becomes convinced that they have used an ambulance in getting away. His superiors are first doubtful, then amused, and finally irritated when he persists in following up this theory. By the time Harry proves his point and the criminals are captured, there have been a series of chases and dodges filled with action and suspense. The story has the same logical construction and authority of detail that distinguish the author's adult titles, written under the name of Jeffrey Ashford.

Jensen, Ann. The Time of Rosie. Steck-Vaughn, 1967. 172p. \$2.50.

Ad
6-9 Ten-year-old Anita Oden describes her life on a ranch in Texas early in the century, especially some problems and ploys with her pet pig, Rosie. The story is episodic, and much of its appeal is in the lively characters of the brisk widow Mrs. Oden, the shrewd cook Candelaria, and the super-masculine uncle who appeared periodically to assert his superiority and is adeptly handled by his widowed sister. The book gives a modicum of Texas history, a pleasant picture of the relations between the family and their ranch workers, and some amusing anecdotes. Occasionally the episodes seem contrived, and the writing has some artificialities but, on the whole, this is light, amusing fiction.

Jensen, Pauline L. Thicker than Water; pictures by Leonard Shortall. Bobbs-Merrill, 1966. 156p. \$3.75.

M
4-6 Motherless Ian Gordon, Scotch-English, comes to stay with his American cousins during World War I, and Tom and Peggy—who have imagined a stalwart, handsome athlete—are disappointed. Ian is small and thin, afraid of most animals, and "sissy." Girls like him, however, and this makes Tom jealous. The three children sustain minor grudges all around, but in time good sense and familial affection prevail. The story ends with the news that Ian's father is wounded but safe; save for Mr. Gordon's role, there is little in the book that has any period flavor. The story is episodic and slow-moving, both the incidents and the characters being rather patterned.

Jordan, Hope Dahle. Haunted Summer. Lothrop, 1967. 158p. Trade ed. \$3.50; Library ed. \$3.35 net.

R
7-10 An unusual situation is skilfully developed into a strong story line; characterization is very good, both in the deep probing of the protagonist and in the lighter portrayal of her circle. The writing style is smooth, and the first-person narration convincing. Rilla, driving in fog, hits and injures a boy; she takes him to a hospital, then panics and runs

away. Ashamed and fearful, Rilla writes to the boy anonymously, sends him her hard-earned money, and cannot feel her guilt is expiated until she—finally—confesses. Into this plot are neatly woven sub-themes of young love, an interest in golf, and a perceptively drawn case of sibling rivalry.

Kaula, Edna Mason. Leaders of the New Africa; illus. by the author. World, 1966. 192p. Trade ed. \$3.75; Library ed. \$3.61 net.

R
7- Although the ferment in Africa makes it impossible for a book such as this to be completely up-to-date, it is a tremendously useful book, written with objectivity, intelligence, and the sort of vivid details that are the product of discriminating observation. The black and white drawings of African leaders are of excellent quality; they are indicated by asterisks in index entries, although this is not stated. The text is prefaced by a map and a list of countries in the order in which they will be mentioned; although the focus is on biographical sketches, there is a more than adequate amount of information about each country given as background. An appendix lists the heads of states at the time each country achieved independence, and a pronunciation key and index are included. This is an unusual combination: a book with ready reference use and a book that gives a broad and colorful picture of a continent in the process of complex change.

Keats, Ezra Jack. Peter's Chair. Harper, 1967. 28p. illus. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

R
3-6 yrs. Here, again, is the family so endearingly shown in The Snowy Day and Whistle for Willie; Peter is now bigger and is no longer the only child. What does his father mean, anyway, "Would you like to paint sister's high chair?" It's Peter's high chair, and it is his crib, too, being painted pink. Dispirited and jealous, Peter rescues his little chair and other belongings—like his own baby picture—and plans to run away (but not very far). When he finds that he is too big to fit into the chair, Peter realizes that he has superior status and is able to make the magnanimous gesture of offering to paint the chair pink. The illustrations combine painting and collage, and they are quite charming.

Kirk, Ruth. David, Young Chief of the Quileutes; An American Indian Today; story and photographs by Ruth Kirk. Harcourt, 1967. 64p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.30 net.

Ad
4-6 Profusely illustrated with photographs, a simply written account of the Quileute Indians of the Pacific coast, with attention focused on their eleven-year-old chief, David Hudson. Although the Quileutes have moved gracefully into contemporary cultural patterns, they have kept a reverence for patterns of the past and for the skills and the language that are fast being forgotten. The writing style is a bit stilted but the information is fascinating and the author's attitude one of friendly admiration for the Quileute people.

Knight, Damon, ed. Worlds to Come; Nine Science Fiction Adventures. Harper, 1967. 337p. Trade ed. \$4.95; Library ed. \$4.43 net.

R
7- The stories in this volume are by some of the best of writers of science fiction: Asimov, Blish, Bradbury, Budrys, Clarke, Fyfe, Heinlein,

Kornbluth, and MacDonald. All of the selections have to do with man's exploration of outer space, and the editor points out (in a brief, provocative introduction) that these are the kinds of stories that may well have influenced the very sort of achievements they described. A list of other titles by the authors included and by the editor in science fiction is appended.

La Farge, Phyllis. The Gumdrop Necklace; illus. by Alan E. Cober. Knopf, 1967. 53p. \$3.25.

M
3-5 Jake's mother had died and his father had gone off to another city; he lived with his Aunt Mavis, who kept a candy store and was as curt and unpleasant to Jake as she was to the customers. When Jake was invited to Annie's birthday party, he asked Aunt Mavis for a chance to earn some money for a present. She refused. All she would give him were some gumdrops; he made a necklace for Annie and when she put it on at the party, the colors glowed as though the drops were jewels. "A magic necklace," someone said, and they all gasped. "Jake was the hero of the party." When he got home, Aunt Mavis was as sour as ever, but he and Annie were friends, so "Aunt Mavis never mattered again." The mixture of realism and fantasy is not convincing; had the other children not participated in the delusion, the fantasy might be considered an understandable wish fulfillment of a lonely, rejected child. The ending seems inconclusive, a promise of perpetual amity that ignores the very real continuing problem in Jake's life.

La Fontaine, Jean de. The Hare and the Tortoise; pictures by Brian Wildsmith. Watts, 1967. 29p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$2.96 net.

R
K-2 The familiar fable is adequately told and beautifully illustrated in an oversize picture book version. The pages glow with color, some of the pictures rather heavy with detail and others—more impressive—in a page layout in which the ample use of space makes all the more effective the humorous details and spectrum of hues in the drawings of plants and animals.

Langton, Jane. The Swing in the Summerhouse; pictures by Erik Blegvad. Harper, 1967. 185p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.79 net.

R
5-7 Charming illustrations echo the graceful fantasy of the writing in a sequel to The Diamond in the Window. Here too there is a successful blending of the real and the fanciful, natural dialogue that is often humorous, and a spectrum of pleasant family relationships. The summerhouse has six sides, and swinging out through each one the children are transported to magical adventures, each of which has some relevance to the children's real life. Written with a light, sure touch.

Lawrence, David Herbert. D. H. Lawrence; poems selected for young people by William Cole; drawings by Ellen Raskin. Viking, 1967. 120p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.77 net.

R
8- A handsome book; the format is dignified and the illustrations, black and white, are dramatic and lovely. Mr. Cole's preface is a lively, informed, and informative essay on Lawrence and his writing. The poems are grouped in four sections: "Animals," "Man, Woman, Child," "Celebrations and Condemnations," and "Love." The poetry is exciting; some

bitter, some tender, some witty, all tumultuous with emotion and span-
gled with words and phrases of piercing felicity.

Lee, Irvin H. Negro Medal of Honor Men; illus. with photographs. Dodd, 1967.
139p. \$4.

Ad
6- A history of Negro participation in American military history, with
emphasis on the deeds of valor that merited the Medal of Honor. The
author, a Negro and a master-sergeant in the U. S. Air Force, writes
with restrained pride and no melodrama—none is needed—but slows the
pace and lessens the impact of the book by including irrelevant details.
There is some imbalance of material; the Korean War is covered early
in the book, then the text moves to the Civil War and the Spanish-
American War, then to World Wars I and II and Vietnam. It is interest-
ing to note that the list of Negro Medal of Honor winners lacks any en-
try for either World War I or World War II. A bibliography and an in-
dex are appended.

Lyon, Elinor. Green Grow the Rushes; illus. by Graham Byfield. Follett, 1967.
154p. Trade ed. \$2.95; Library ed. \$2.97 net.

R
6-8 First published in Great Britain in 1964, a story that has a memora-
ble cast list, a good plot, an interesting setting, and a discerning devel-
opment of relationships. Despite the jacket's listing of the book as "A
Merit Mystery" it is not really a mystery, but it is a cracking good ac-
tion story. The print is very small, the vocabulary—and even more the
characterization—sophisticated. Two thirteen-year-old guests are vis-
iting an elderly woman; Jenny is a shy, intelligent girl who quickly
makes friends with the Meredith children who live nearby; Viola is a
pampered, garrulous, and complacent girl who is easily seen through
both by her hostess and by the Merediths. Left out, Viola takes petty
revenge and almost causes a disastrous accident.

McLanathan, Richard. Images of the Universe; Leonardo Da Vinci: The Artist
as Scientist. Doubleday, 1966. 192p. illus. \$4.50.

R
8- A most interesting book about Leonardo, devised and written with in-
telligence and profusely illustrated by reproductions (almost all of them
in scale) from the artist's notebooks. The arrangement of material is
roughly chronological for the first part of the book; the latter part con-
sists of drawings grouped within such a topic as war machines and equip-
ment or the study of water. The author, an art historian and a former
museum curator, gives excellent background material about the world
in which Leonardo lived; he writes perceptively of the man and authori-
tatively of the artist and scientist. A bibliography and an index are ap-
pended.

Maiden, Cecil. The Molliwumps; illus. by Christine Price. Viking, 1967. 111p.
Trade ed. \$3; Library ed. \$2.96 net.

Ad
4-6 A fanciful story for girls, in which a pair of out-of-work fairies are
given a special assignment: they must bring together two girls who be-
came friends in England when Roberta had visited there and met Jane.
Successful in their mission, Mr. and Mrs. Molliwump have a few nar-
row escapes and nervous moments before Jane's family is induced to
come to New York. The frenzied activity of a French farce occurs in an

occasional episode, and the story has moments of contrivance, but the style is lively and a great deal of humor is extracted from the whole idea of the middle-aged Molliwumps being given a chance (after fumbling their last assignment) by the International Fairies' Guild.

Malkus, Alida Sims. The Beloved Island; A Cuban Family's Fight for Freedom. Chilton, 1967. 161p. \$4.25.

M
7-9 The Uriaga family is divided; Elena and her widowed mother, her elderly uncle and her grandmother all feel that the regime's excesses are defeating the very goals for which those who overthrew Batista fought. The sons of the family are militant and proud supporters of Castro. A succession of events convinces even the young men that they must, in the train of many others, leave their island and live as exiles; when they go, the two oldest stay behind with the family servants to work for the underground. The book has several weaknesses that counteract the appeal of the setting and the subject. Aurore and General Sucre, the Negro servants, are drawn as loyal, intelligent, and dependable, but Aurore's precision-like prescience and her language are faintly redolent of stereotype. The dialogue is frequently used for extensive polemics or for informative lectures on Cuban history. The writing is often careless in construction; for example, ". . . many of which she herself did not know about, nor wished to."

Marshall, Archibald. The Dragon; illus. by Edward Ardizzone. Dutton, 1967. 30p. Trade ed. \$3.25; Library ed. \$3.22 net.

Ad
3-5 Clearly Ardizzone had as much fun illustrating this mildly satirical fairy tale as Marshall had in writing it; the story was originally published in Punch. The story line is traditional: the modest young page succeeds in killing a dragon and wins the hand of the beautiful princess after other, nobler suitors had failed. The style is anything but traditional, as it gently ridicules the pattern. The king says to his counselors, when the dragon appears at the town gate, ". . . it is very unfortunate this happening just now because I was just arranging for a nice little war. We haven't had one for some time and the soldiers are getting fat and lazy. . ."

Meltzer, Milton, ed. In Their Own Words; A History of the American Negro, 1916-1966. T. Y. Crowell, 1967. 213p. illus. \$4.95.

R
7-10 A third volume in the author's trilogy of American Negro history drawn from primary sources: letters, autobiographical material, excerpts from magazine articles and books, testimony from hearings. Explanatory notes and comments by Mr. Meltzer give background for the excerpts. Like its predecessors, this is an important and stirring book; the three volumes provide a historical study that is uniquely moving and an indictment more powerful than any polemic harangue. Because of the stir and protest of the Negro people, of the legislation of the recent past, of the growing strength of the civil rights movement, this third volume has even more stark and bitter voices than did the other two.

Nathan, Dorothy. The Shy One; illus. by Carolyn Cather. Random House, 1966. 179p. \$3.50.

A pleasant story about a Russian Jewish family, set in a small Oregon

R
4-6 town in 1921; the shy one is Dorothy, a fifth-grader, and she is timid about almost anything: meeting people, playing in a piano recital, barking dogs. She is shy about meeting her grandmother and her Uncle Max when they come over from the old country, and she yearns to be as confident and outgoing as her little sister. Spurred by a desire to help the school paper drive, she talks to some adults; spurred by a wish to have Max participate, she accompanies him on the piano for a class program. The book doesn't have a strong story line, but the episodes are tied together smoothly, and the period details are delightful.

Ogilvie, Elisabeth. The Pigeon Pair. McGraw-Hill, 1967. 182p. \$4.50.

R
6-9 It was Papa who called Ingrid and Greg his "pigeon twins," and it is Ingrid who looks back at eighteen to describe her childhood in a small Maine coastal town. Ingrid's family was poor, and the fact that Mama daydreamed and Papa boasted and talked about his family pride didn't help. The Snow family may have founded the town, but Ingrid Snow still wore hand-me-downs and was teased about them. The twins dreamed of the day when they could buy back the old Snow house, but as they grew older, Greg seemed to care less and less. Not until Greg committed an act of vandalism, desperate at hearing the house was going to be sold, did Ingrid realize that her twin still cared about their dream. The picture of the Snow's family life is given with an almost aching fidelity: the amiable, shiftless mother and the not quite honest father; Greg, defeated by his environment and withdrawing from people, and Ingrid grimly holding the family together after her mother's death. An honest and intelligent story.

Ottley, Reginald. The Roan Colt; illus. by David Parry. Harcourt, 1967. 159p. \$3.25.

Ad
5-7 A second book about the cattle ranch at the edge of the Australian desert (Boy Alone, reviewed in the October, 1966 issue) where an adolescent boy who is without a family works as a chore boy. The ranch workers are too tough to show affection, but it is clear they feel it: the cook has a soft spot for the boy (he is given no name) and the boss buys him a beautiful saddle and has him taught to ride. The roan colt is rescued by the boy and two aboriginal girls from being killed because he is crippled; the boss, who rescues the children and the horse from a fire, realizes how much the boy cares and lets the roan colt live. The setting is as interesting as it was in the first book, but the story has less suspense and not quite as good an evocation of mood; characterization is slight but the characters are individual and interesting.

Pepper, Curtis G. The Pope's Back Yard. Farrar, 1967. 184p. illus. \$4.50.

R
6-9 A most interesting book about the Pope, about the history of the Papacy and the Vatican, and—in great detail—about Vatican City. The text is studded with anecdotes, some of them humorous and some of them embarrassingly trite. The author discusses, in giving historical background, some of the architectural or personal foibles of Popes of the past; he speaks with affection of the late Pope John and with admiration of the present Pope. Most of the book is devoted to a description of the city-state as a physical entity: the gardens, transportation and communication, the buildings and municipal services; there are explanations

of the roles of those who work and live in Vatican City, especially of those who directly serve the Pope. The book closes with suggestions for sightseeing walks, and gives instructions for the various ways in which it is possible for a tourist to see the Pope. Endpapers give duplicate maps with numbered listings of sites.

Peters, Lane. Mystery at the Moscow Fair; illus. by Theresa Brudi. Criterion Books, 1967. 160p. \$3.50.

NR
4-6 A family-travel-mystery story. The Anders family is participating in the United States exhibit at a Moscow fair; the twins, Mark and Lisa, help their small sister hide the pet squirrel she has smuggled in, hidden in a knitting bag. Little Wicki takes her squirrel for a walk, meets an old man she calls Grandpa, is given two crude painted eggs as a gift. Mark and Lisa cannot understand why Grandpa's grandson is so hostile. The reason having been explained, Andrei and the twins become friendly. The eggs turn out to conceal two works of the jeweler's art, Grandpa having been very fond of the Princess Anastasia—for whom the intricate and beautiful eggs had been made. The book gives some information about Moscow, and some feeling of understanding about the people, but it has a quite contrived plot and slight characterization, and is written in a pedestrian style.

Peterson, John. Enemies of the Secret Hide-out; story and pictures by John Peterson. Four Winds, 1966. 48p. Trade ed. \$2.50; Library ed. \$2.97 net.

Ad
2-4 In The Secret Hide-out a small group of boys found the records of a generation before, and promptly formed a similar Viking Club. Here the four youngsters are baffled by the uncooperative attitude of a prospective new member; after a contretemps, he sends a spiteful note. The boys find that there are three non-members involved in the teasing; confronted, their sulky acquaintance runs off and the other two pursuers decide to join the club. The slight plot is realistic enough, but it develops with slow pace and an air of contrivance.

Pilkington, F. M. The Three Sorrowful Tales of Erin; with drawings by Victor Ambrus. Walck, 1966. 232p. \$3.75.

Ad
5-7 Part of the cycle of Irish legendry, three tales to read or to tell: "The Fate of the Children of Tuireann," "The Fate of the Children of Lir," and "Deirdre and the Sons of Uisne." Each of the three stories consists of many separate episodes. The writing has the distinctive cadence of Irish speech and the valor-and-doom atmosphere appropriate to mythology; but it is ornate writing, solidly printed and ponderous of pace. The black and white illustrations are darkly distinctive.

Polland, Madeleine A. Deirdre. Doubleday, 1967. 166p. \$3.50.

Ad
7-9 An historical novel based on the Celtic legend of the beautiful maiden of Ireland, Deirdre, so lovely at her birth that King Conor brought her up to be his bride. Afraid that the girl would compare him to younger men, he hid her away in a lonely house, but she met by accident the three sons of Usna and fell deeply in love with one, Naoise. They married, and were hunted by the wrathful Conor in their retreat in Scotland; deceitfully the king lured them back, and when Naoise was killed, Deirdre cast

herself into the grave, dead with a broken heart. Well written, although this inherently dramatic story moves at a slow pace that shifts—not quite successfully—the burden of the suspense to dialogue rather than to action.

Rongen, Bjørn. Anna of the Bears; tr. from the Norwegian by Evelyn Ramsden; illus. by Jane Paton. Farrar, 1967. 118p. \$3.25.

M
3-5 Translated from the Norwegian, a story about a situation in which a small child encounters a large bear and is unharmed. The pace of the action is slow and the writing style sedate, as Anna's family and neighbors hunt for her, their conversation making the denouement fairly apparent: "Yes, if the bear has Anna she probably thinks that Anna is her own cub." It therefore comes as no great surprise when one of the boys sees Anna sitting placidly with the bear, and the bear's cub (which had been caught) is carried nearer and nearer by Anna's mother, in a sort of exchange of progeny.

Rugh, Belle Dorman. The Lost Waters; illus. by Dorothy Bayley Morse. Houghton, 1967. 215p. \$3.50.

R
6-9 Carol was delighted when her cousin Andy came to Lebanon for a visit, and both youngsters became curious about the feud that seemed to exist between two groups of Lebanese. The lost waters, they discovered, were literally that: a spring that had disappeared and over which the two villages had quarreled. The book has a story line and several sub-plots, but this and the large number of characters do not seem to crowd the pages, so smoothly does the traffic flow; the gregarious mingling seems natural to the setting. One of the most attractive qualities of the book is in the setting and the cultural diffusion that comes with such ease to the young people of the story.

Seidner, Diane. Young Nurse in New York. Dial, 1967. 113p. \$2.95.

Ad
6-9 Written by a registered nurse, this junior novel avoids most of the pitfalls of formula writing, but is limited in impact because of the episodic structure and thin story line. Kira is a senior student, not sure that she wants to go on with nursing; with each contribution she makes to patients, she is more sure that she wants to be a nurse, and the story closes with an unsentimental graduation ceremony. She has a boy friend who is a doctor, but this is given minimal attention; there is no traumatic relationship with a strict supervisor who turns out to have a heart of gold when the protagonist comes through in a crisis situation. There are some crises, but they are realistic ones: a breech birth, a death, a large-scale emergency due to an accident. Although there are a few places where the author falls into the trap of giving medical information in the guise of conversation, the book is strong in giving a realistic picture of the nurse's role in the spectrum of hospital services.

Shemin, Margaretha. Mrs. Herring; drawings by Robert Quackenbush. Lothrop, 1967. 192p. Trade ed. \$3.95; Library ed. \$3.70 net.

Ad
5-8 Amy, Elly, and Jos van Dam go from their Leiden home to spend two weeks in Scheveningen with their friend Mrs. Tal, the herring seller whom they call "Mrs. Herring." Jos, who is thirteen, sympathizes with Mrs. Herring's orphaned grandson, Pieter; coming from a family of

fishermen, Pieter resents his grandmother's injunction to stay on land. Jos understands that Mrs. Herring—who has lost her son and husband to the sea—wants only to protect Pieter, but she feels that Pieter must choose his own course. When Pieter runs off, Mrs. Herring realizes that she cannot create any reaction but resentment if she insists on her own way. The story is a bit slow-moving despite the strong plot line because of the number of small, irrelevant incidents. The setting is interesting, and the characterizations and relationships very astutely portrayed.

Silverberg, Robert. The Gate of Worlds. Holt, 1967. 244p. Trade ed. \$4.50; Library ed. \$3.97 net.

R
7-10 A most intriguing story based on the idea that the course of history could easily have been changed by one fact or event. The time is 1963 and the protagonist is a young man of New Istanbul who leaves his home, as have so many young men of downtrodden minority groups, to try his luck in a new land. Dan Beauchamp is from England (New Istanbul was once called London) and he comes to the Aztec land of Mexico. Dan has a series of adventures, some amusing and some dangerous, but the appeal of the story is really in the fascinating exploration of it-might-have-been.

Smith, Howard K. Washington, D. C.; The Story of Our Nation's Capital; illus. with photographs and maps. Random House, 1967. 193p. (Landmark Books) \$3.95.

R
7- An oversize book in handsome format, with very good photographic illustrations. Mr. Smith describes the development of the city from its choice as a site for the federal capital to the most recent improvements of the present decade. He gives an informed, objective, and perceptive history of the men and the events that were important in the city and amply fills in their backgrounds, whether foreign or domestic. The book is written with practiced ease and flashes of humor; it is quite as enjoyable as it is informative. An index is appended.

Taylor, Elizabeth. Mossy Trotter; illus. by Laszlo Acs. Harcourt, 1967. 160p. \$3.25.

R
4-5 A quiet, episodic story about a small boy's life in an English village. Mossy is eight, his sister Emma four; between them is a relationship compounded of competition and affection; between Mossy and his mother there is a firm love punctuated with moments of exasperation. The slim thread of the story is based on Mossy's reluctant anticipation of being a page boy at a wedding, his misery mitigated by the fact that the flower girl turns out to be compatible tomboy. Slow-moving, smoothly written, and gently funny.

Taylor, Theodore. People Who Make Movies; illus. with photographs. Doubleday, 1967. 158p. \$3.95.

R
6- A most interesting book, written by a motion picture press agent in a lively colloquial style with occasional errors ("slight of hand") and frequent witticisms. Each chapter is devoted to one job—either one so exalted as the producer or director, or one of lower rank, such as the stuntman or the publicist. The book contains a few anecdotes; they add

appeal, but are hardly needed, since the industry has its own glamor which is fully exploited by the author. Mr. Taylor views his associates with wry sympathy, describing their duties, their problems, and the restrictions imposed upon them by time, money, weather, caprice, and their colleagues. A glossary and an index are appended.

Trease, Geoffrey. The Red Towers of Granada; illus. by Charles Keeping. Vanguard, 1967. 186p. \$3.95.

R
6-9 An adventure story set in the time of Edward I. Young Robin of Westwood, cast out of his village as a leper, meets a Jewish doctor who assures the boy that he has only a minor skin disease. Although it is illegal for Jews to practice medicine, Solomon takes the boy into his home so that he can be treated. When Solomon's family goes to Spain, Robin goes also; in search of a rare medicine for Queen Eleanor, Robin has adventures, makes Moslem and Jewish friends, and finds a bride. The background is exotic, characterization adequate, and the plot has pace and drama.

Ushinsky, K. How a Shirt Grew in the Field; ad. from the Russian of K. Ushinsky by Marguerita Rudolph; pictures by Yaroslava. McGraw-Hill, 1967. 32p. \$3.75.

R
K-2 First published over a hundred years ago, this story of a Russian child in the countryside is translated and adapted in a simple, direct style that suits the guileless young protagonist, Vasya. The illustrations have an echoing simplicity and some lovely, intricate costume details. Vasya is told by his father that he is sowing flax seeds, "so that shirts will grow for you and baby Anya." Vasya is baffled: how can shirts grow? As the flax grows and flowers, is cut and winnowed, beaten, combed and spun; as the cloth is bleached, cut, and sewn Vasya keeps doubting the outcome. When the shirt appears, it becomes evident that the industrious work of his older sisters has added to the product: this is not just a shirt, it is a beautiful shirt with handsome embroidery.

Weiss, Harvey. Paint, Brush and Palette. Scott, 1966. 64p. illus. Trade ed. \$4.50; Library ed. \$3.38 net.

R
6- An excellent book for the beginner, profusely illustrated with diagrams, charts, sketches and reproductions of works of art. The first half of the book is devoted to color: primary, complementary, and contrasting colors; explanations of values and intensity, of warmth and coolness, and of contrast. The author discusses forms, textures, and shadows. The second half of the book describes media and technique—including a brief explanation of perspective—and gives instructions for making an easel. Not comprehensive, but lucidly written and always encouraging the reader to experiment.

Williams, Ursula Moray. The Moonball; illus. by Jane Paton. Meredith, 1967. 138p. \$3.95.

R
4-6 A charming fantasy written with flair and humor, the realistic setting a nice foil for the establishment of the moonball as a quite believable creature. Round and furry, the moonball is found by a group of children who somehow realize it is a living thing; they take turns caring for it and they unite in keeping it from would-be scientific investigation. The

fanciful element is original and deftly handled; the characterization is perceptive, and the writing style lively and often humorous.

Wilson, Julia. Becky; illus. by John Wilson. T. Y. Crowell, 1967. 34p. \$3.75.

Ad K-2 Grandma had given Becky some birthday money, and her mother took her downtown to spend it; they went from store to store looking for exactly the right doll. When they did find it, the doll proved to be too expensive; then something very strange happened. The doll walked (being wound up) out of the store, was thrown aside by a snow plow, and was found by Becky, who then convinced her mother to lend her enough money to buy the doll. The contrivance of the doll's being found by Becky weakens an otherwise pleasant, simple story, and the illustrations show a doll so exactly like Becky (who had been hunting a doll that looked like her) as to be obtrusive. The doll's face is exactly Becky's warm brown, the pigtails are the same length, the clothes the same cut and color.

Wright, Dare. Look at a Gull. Random House, 1967. 39p. illus. \$2.95.

Ad 2-4 An oversize book, each page a photograph with a small amount of text carefully placed so that the pages have a spacious and uncluttered look. The photographs are excellent, although a few are blurred by motion. The gull tells his own story, describing his life as a downy nestling and contrasting it, now that he is five years old, with the freedom, the strength, and the proficiency he has attained. The text gives a good picture of the habits and habitat of gulls, and the pictures almost evoke the smell of the sea.

Wright, Olgivanna Lloyd. Frank Lloyd Wright; His Life, His Work, His Words. Horizon, 1966. 224p. illus. \$7.50.

Ad 8- A quite long book that has a comparatively small amount of biographical material, a considerable amount of text and illustrations devoted to Wright's work, and many, many pages of quotation from the architect's writings (some not previously published, according to the book's jacket) and his conversations. The writing becomes florid occasionally, but it does give personal reflections; it gives a good—if scattered—summary of Wright's theories as well as of his accomplishments, and it provides a most useful list entitled "The Buildings and Projects of Frank Lloyd Wright."

Wyler, Rose. Magic Secrets; by Rose Wyler and Gerald Ames; pictures by Talivaldis Stubis. Harper, 1967. 64p. (I Can Read Books) Trade ed. \$1.95; Library ed. \$2.19 net.

R 2-3 A first book about tricks that can be done by an amateur, very simply written and very clearly illustrated for the beginning independent reader who aspires to legerdemain. The text suggests that an audience sees that to which its attention is directed, and shows the small diversionary tactics that add to illusion. The tricks are lucidly explained, and the whole book has a sort of merry air.

Reading for Librarians

- Burns, Paul and Hines, Ruth. "Miriam E. Mason: Storytelling Sister." Elementary English, January, 1966.
- Colby, Jean Poindexter. Writing, Illustrating and Editing Children's Books. Hastings House, 1967. 320p. \$6.95.
- Eakin, Mary K. Subject Index to Books for Primary Grades. American Library Association, 1967. 122p. \$4.
- Haviland, Virginia. Children's Literature; A Guide to Reference Sources. The Library of Congress, 1966. 341p. \$2.50.
- Haviland, Virginia. Serving Those Who Serve Children: A National Reference Library of Children's Books. A reprint of an article from the October, 1965 issue of the Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress. 16p. \$.20. Order from the Superintendent of Documents, General Post Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
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